

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.*

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An The element claimed in claim 1 for use in a  
brake actuator, said element being mounted so as to be always in contact with  
hydraulic brake fluid in a brake fluid pressure circuit, said element comprising a first  
member formed with a blind hole having a bottom, and a second member having a  
bottom and press-fit into said blind hole, one of said first member and said second  
member being formed with a channel through which any gap present between said  
bottom of said second member and said bottom of said blind hole is in  
communication with the outside of said blind hole, wherein said channel is defined by  
a cylindrical inner periphery of said blind hole and a flat cut surface formed on the  
outer periphery of a portion of said second member which is press-fit into said hole.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The element of claim [[4]] 2 wherein the bottom  
of said blind hole has the shape of a convex cone.

6. (Currently Amended) The element of claim [[4]] 2 wherein one of the bottom of said second member and the bottom of said blind hole has the shape of a concave cone having a first apex angle, and the other of the bottom of said second member and the bottom of said blind hole has the shape of a convex cone having a second apex angle, said first apex angle being different from said second apex angle.

7. (Previously Presented) The element of claim 2 wherein said bottom of said second member and said bottom of said blind hole are shaped so as to contact each other only at central portion of said blind hole with the edge of the bottom of said pin spaced from the bottom of said blind hole when said second member is press-fit into said blind hole.

8. (Canceled)